

WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
West Ilsley Parish Council (“WIPC”)
held at the West Ilsley Village Hall, West Ilsley
on Monday 10 September 2018 at 7.30pm (the “Meeting”)**

Present: Rollo Duckworth (Chair)
Inna Fauler (Secretary)
Justin Gilbert
Anna Sugden
Alan Bloor
Justin Pilditch

Apologies: Graham Woods
Alan Beaumont

In attendance: Various members of the public

	Actions
1 Chair and Apologies	
1.1 Rollo Duckworth (“RD”) acted as Chair of the Meeting. Inna Fauler (“IF”) agreed to act as Secretary and take the minutes. RD thanked everybody for attending the Meeting.	
2 Changes to Declarations of Interest and Councillors	
2.1 No changes to the Declarations of Interest of the Councillors were received, nor were there any changes to the Councillors.	
3 Minutes of the Meeting of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 10 July 2018	
3.1 The draft minutes of the Meeting of the WIPC held on Monday 10 July 2018 (the “Minutes”) had been circulated prior to the Meeting. The draft Minutes were approved and signed by RD as a true record.	IF to file the Minutes from the July 2018 Meeting in the WIPC archives.
4 Matters Arising from the Minutes	
4.1 RD asked IF whether all the actions that had arisen from the Minutes of the previous Meeting had been completed. It was confirmed as follows:	
a) RD informed the Meeting that the West Berkshire Council had stated that, unfortunately, it had no funds to renew the Village’s walking maps (showing the footpaths and bridleways, etc). The only option they could offer was to produce a photocopy.	
b) Alan Beaumont (“ABe”) had still not provided an invoice to IF for the purchase of the new motor mower. IF was requested to follow up.	IF to ask ABe for the invoice for the new lawn mover
c) The Meeting agreed that IF would circulate all planning permissions received from West Berkshire Council among the Councilors and they would then comment regarding the issues.	
d) The tree work near the play area had been completed, thanks to Graham	

Woods ("GW") who had organized that.

- e) GW reported that he contacted the owner of the Matchbox house with the skip. The owner had tidied his front lawn afterwards and the property now looked much better.

5 Correspondence

5.1 There was a general discussion regarding the potholes on the route to Mick Channon's stables. Unfortunately, there was still no answer from West Berkshire Council repair possible repairs.

5.2 There had been a letter from District Cllr Clive Hooker regarding some tiles which had slipped from the Village Hall roof. He asked that they be fixed. IF had forwarded all information to Alan Bloor ("ABI"), the Chair of the Village Hall Committee. Anna Sugden ("AS") volunteered to arrange for a roof tiler to attend to the matter.

AS to arrange for a roof tiler to attend to the Village Hall roof.

5.3 There had been some complaints about the footpath behind the Giles North's house. It was very slippery and residents thought this could be dangerous. ABI said that something ought to be done to make it safe for dog walkers and other users of the footpath. West Berkshire Council has been informed.

5.4 There was a discussion regarding the letter from a person who could not locate the name of his relative on the Village's war memorial. It was later determined that the relative's name had never been inscribed on the memorial. However, the correspondence had given the Village cause to acknowledge that the names on the war memorial were very difficult to read. The problem seemed to be that the stone itself was very soft, and cleaning it could make the situation even worse. All the relevant names were copied inside the church and were read out at special war memorial services. ABI suggested whether we could have a bronze plaque with the names on the war memorial. Cllr Rollo Duckworth ("RD") agreed to contact the memorial trust and see whether they could help us with funding.

RD to contact the Memorial Trust re funding for a bronze plaque for the Village war memorial.

6 Community Matters

6.1 Finance: It was noted that ABe had not yet presented the invoice for the purchase of the new lawn mower. Parish Council still owed him this money.

6.2 Cricket Club: It was noted that the cricket season was almost over. Some of the Councillors noted that they are still getting complaints about the presence of barbed wire on the cricket pitch fence. It had been used by farmers to control sheep. There was a discussion on whether it could be covered somehow. Justin Pilditch ("JP") would be attending the last cricket club Meeting and would find out what the plans were.

6.3 Fireworks: It was noted that Tony Elliot was responsible for the fireworks evening this year.

6.4 Village Hall: There was discussion again that the Village Hall Committee wanted to replace the floor in the Village Hall and complete the insulation work. Others noted that the floor in the Village Hall had been redone only 5 years ago, but the job had not been satisfactory, and the floor covering was "bubbling". The windows also needed to be addressed. In winter time, it was very difficult to heat the Village Hall thoroughly. In conclusion, it was decided to wait for quotes for the work required, and then make a final decision.

7 Environment and Upkeep

7.1 Planning Applications: It was decided that IF would circulate planning applications to Councillors via electronic email, and that the Councillors could then make their comments

7.2 Footpaths and Bridleways: There had been a complaint regarding the footpath next to the Giles North's house. RD agreed to write an email to WBC on this matter.

7.3 Open spaces: Justin Gilbert ("JG") noted that pond area was not at all accessible and that it was impossible to walk there. He felt that it could be managed better. The pond area ought to be a pleasant place, but this was definitely not the case at the moment. The water was stagnant and malodorous, and green coloured. The gazebo itself looked nice, but you could not walk behind it.

7.4 AS noted that a principal problem with the water in the pond was that it was not fresh or circulated water. ABI asked JG whether he had any suggestions. One option, for example, might be to organize a Saturday working party. JG stated that the internal section of the pond was fine: it was the perimeter which needed some tidying up. JG said that maybe we could get a professional to have a look.

8 Safety and Services

8.1 Speeding: JG informed the Meeting that Tony Elliot had passed all speed sign equipment and kit to him.

8.2 Refuse and waste: It was noted that, beginning this month, WBC would be charging each household for green bin collection. The cost was £50 per month.

8.3 Signage: There was again discussion regarding the road sign on Catmore Road on the entrance into the Village. The sign was covered in vegetation and difficult to see. It was also in a very poor condition. ABe agreed to check it out.

8.4 Neighbourhood watch: It was discussed at the Meeting that rural crime rates had risen dramatically lately. Several incidents had been recorded in neighbouring villages. We needed to inform people so that they could be more vigilant and lock all doors, for example. Someone suggested that we should make an announcement and warn people through the WIN, but others were against this idea. JG cautioned that we should not overdo any such statement and alarm people, especially the elderly. RD said that he would find out about community police / policing and how this might be helpful.

8.5 Telephone and broadband: It was noted that the telephone box had finally been removed.

9 Date of Next Meeting

9.1 The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 12 November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

9.2 There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chair

RD to write to WBC regarding the footpath.

JG will inspect the pond area and let the Meeting know what could be done to improve it.

ABe to review the state of the Catmore Road signs.

RD to find out about community policing.

All to attend.

